

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Original) A process for the production of α -interferon comprising the steps:

- i) inducing of human leukocytes by means of a virus,
- ii) treating the leukocytes with an enhancing agent selected from
 - a) xanthine, pyrimidinol and pyrimidinone, theophylline, theobromine, enprophylline, hypoxanthine, 8-phenyltheophylline, 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methylpyrimidinol, 2-amino-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol and thymine;
 - b) an organic solvent selected from the group consisting of non-aromatic ketones, aliphatic or cyclic amides, alkylated aliphatic or cyclic urea derivatives and aliphatic or cyclic sulfoxides; or a combination of the compounds from a) with an organic solvent from b).

Claim 2. (Original) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the leukocytes are monocytes.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the enhancing agent is added at the same time or up to 4 hours after the virus induction.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

Claim 6. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the enhancing agent is 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol.

Claim 7. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the enhancing agent is thymine.

Claim 8. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, characterized in that the organic solvent is any of acetone, 2-butanone, 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone, dimethylsulfoxide, N-ethyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 4-methyl-2-pentanone, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 2-pyrrolidinone, tetramethylene sulfoxide and N,N-dimethylacetamide.

Claim 9. (Original) A process according to claim 8, characterized in that the solvent is N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the enhancing agent is added at the same time or up to 4 hours after the virus induction.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 3, characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 10, characterized in that the virus is Sendai virus.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 3, characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 4, characterized in that the enhancing agent is theophylline.

Claim 17. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the enhancing agent is 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol.

Claim 18. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 3, characterized in that the enhancing agent is 2-amino-5-bromo-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinol.

Claim 19. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the enhancing agent is thymine.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 2, characterized in that the organic solvent is any of acetone, 2-butanone, 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone, dimethylsulfoxide, N-ethyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 4-methyl-2-pentanone, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone, 2-pyrrolidinone, tetramethylene sulfoxide and N,N-dimethylacetamide.